

GFWC of Montana

August 2023  
Volume 99, Issue 1



# The Montana Woman



*Community - Acknowledgement  
Respect - Empowerment  
2022-2024*

## GFWC MONTANA FALL MEETING September 29—30, 2023 Copper King Hotel, Butte

**Hotel Reservations**—406-533-6960, \$149/night King, \$139 Double Queen  
*Includes Breakfast, Deadline September 11, 2023 for group rate*  
Refer to Montana General Federation of Women's Clubs

The Call to Fall Meeting and Registration Form were emailed to Club Presidents and other Board of Directors members on August 17th.

*A copy of the Registration Form is attached to this Montana Woman issue for your convenience.*

**GFWC National Day of Service** collection of food and monetary donations for the Butte Emergency Food Bank (see notice page 10)

**Secure the Call** used cell phone collection (see notice page 5)

**PDQ Jewelry PLUS Accessories Sale** now includes belts, purses, scarves, donations for the sale are welcomed.

**CARE Project Handkerchief Quilt** - last chance to turn in raffle stubs to win

**All GFWC Montana members are invited!**

**Please make every effort to have your club represented to hear first hand all the presentations and guest speakers.**

### Inside this issue

Fall Meeting.....	1
From the President .....	2
WSR Pictures .....	3-4
Statewide Happenings.....	5-6
Club Happenings.....	7-8
Membership Corner.....	9
National Day of Service.....	10
GFWC Montana History.....	10

### GFWC of Montana Executive Committee

ALL COMMUNICATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO :

GFWCMT.BOARD@GMAIL.COM

President  
Lynn Foreman

President Elect, Membership Chairman  
Karen Gustavsen

1st Vice President, Dean of Departments  
Kim Montag

Recording Secretary  
Marsha Baumeister

Corresponding Secretary/  
Zoom Administrator  
Marsha Price

Treasurer  
Lorrie Hardy

Parliamentary Advisor  
Sandi Conrady

Budget and Finance Chairman  
Adina Fox

See the 2022-2024 Contact Book given to each Board Member for more information.

### The Montana Woman

*The Montana Woman* is published quarterly in August, November, February, and May. The deadline for news is the first of the month preceding the publication date. We encourage GFWC of Montana clubs to share their news in *The Montana Woman*.

Email news and photographs to:  
Karen K. Gustavsen, Editor  
gfwcmt.board@gmail.com

Mail or email change of address to:  
GFWC of Montana Membership Chairman  
Karen K. Gustavsen  
gfwcmt.board@gmail.com



# From the President

I have had a very busy summer juggling my “Many Hats” Beside being GFWC Montana President. Which, by the way is a request that I have for those of you who are coming to our Fall Meeting (How Many Hats do you Wear?). Last chance – purchase tickets for the CARE Handkerchief Quilt drawing on September 30<sup>th</sup>. need not be present to win.

### PLEASE COME, IT WILL BE EDUCATIONAL & FUN!

I attended the GFWC International Convention in Louisville, KY. The Flag Ceremony was reinstated for the opening Procession of the State & International Presidents. Karen Gustavsen, President Elect carried the Montana State Flag & I followed. We dressed in Western wear a tribute to our Montana heritage. Pictures are available on our website. In addition to the traditional business meeting and breakout Sessions, there was a panel of representatives from our Affiliate who made a brief statement about their Mission & goals; and then took questions from the attendees (Shot of Life, Shot of Life, Canine Companions & Humana). I also participated in the Service Project along with fellow State of Montana attendees to make flannel dog beds for the Canine Companions. There were several individuals with their companions in attendance – which were great to see in action.

The arranged outing was a visit to Churchill Downs, which the week before our meeting was shut down due to the illness affecting the horses. GFWC had to scramble to provide an alternative event for both Thursday evening & Friday morning – lunch. We were fortunate that they were able to retain the venue – without the races. Churchill Downs in itself was so interesting. The museum holds so many artifacts of the Run for the Roses. It was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Secretariate’s Tripple Crown. They have a very large oval screen with short swivel stools in the center of the room. We were able to watch Secretariat run the race, by turning our stools! During dinner a local Milner who makes the fabulous hats spoke, and some of our sisters were models (in place of the horse races).

I was proud to receive four State Awards for: Education & Libraries; Public Relations & Communications; Leadership & Shot of Life. Thank you to the Clubs that submitted their 2022 annual report and to the Chairman who fulfilled their role and submitted the State report. I acknowledge the individuals and clubs who supported the Shot of Life Affiliate.

In July I attended the Western District summer Social on the University of Montana Campus. Once I found the correct building with the assistance of a professor, I had a warm welcome. Thank you to Jennifer Lippy for hosting – and sharing the history. We are fortunate to have such a resource that is available to GFWC Montana women.

**Last request – PLEASE again try to have a club representation at the Fall meeting – particularly on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> which is the GFWC Day of Service. If that is not possible – please send me what your Club is doing in support of Food Insecurity on September 30<sup>th</sup> – which will be announced at the meeting.**



*Thank you for all that you do for your community. Keep up the your efforts “Taking Care of Those that Take Care of us”*

*In Federation & Kindness,  
Lynn*



## Western States Region Conference at the Eagles Crest Resort in Redmond Oregon



Montana State Award Recipients at the GFWC International Convention—Front: Deb Strahanoski, GFWC International President with Sandi Conrady, GFWC WSR President. Back: Joyce Decunzo, Leadership Award; Lynn Foreman, Montana President; Lorraine Renard, Education & Libraries Award; Nancy Hanford, Public Relations & Communications Award.

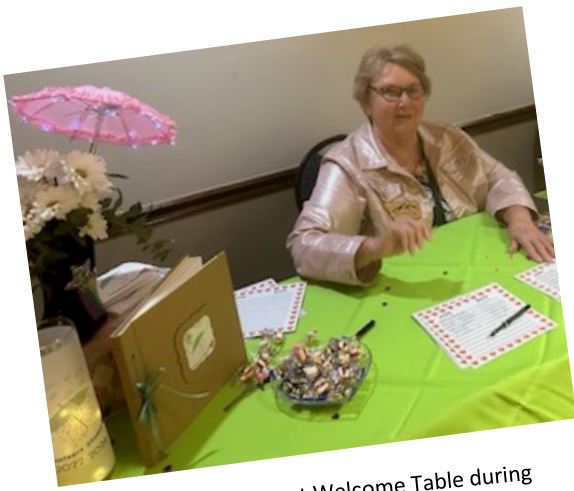


*Adina Fox, WSR Fund Raising Chairman with the quilt raffle drawn at the WSR Conference.*



Montana Attendees at the Western States Region Conference  
Front: Cathy Kipping, Sharon Bolick, Nancy Hanford, Cathy Mills, Sandi Conrady, Florence Diede, Lynn Forman, Adina Fox  
Back: Karen Gustavsen, Cheryl Martin, Sarah Fryer, Adriann Monson, Bobbie Conrady, Joyce DeCunzo, Lorraine Renard, Lorrie Hardy, Kim Montag, Beth Campbell, Michelle Tanberg, Toni Scully. In shadow behind Adina is Jo Campbell. Missing is Stephanie Senn.



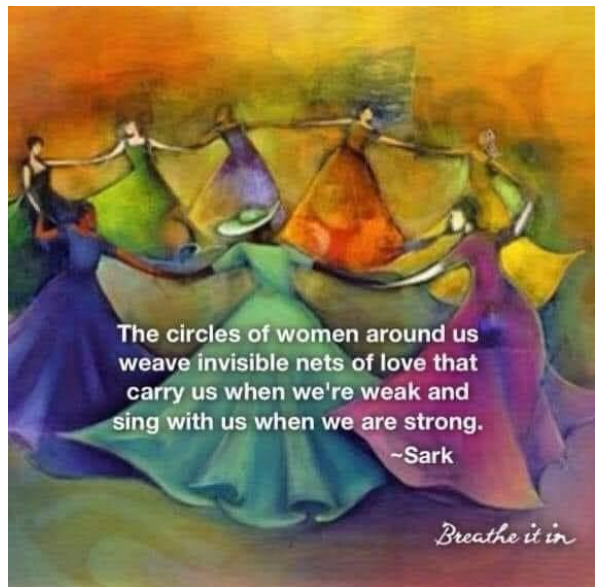
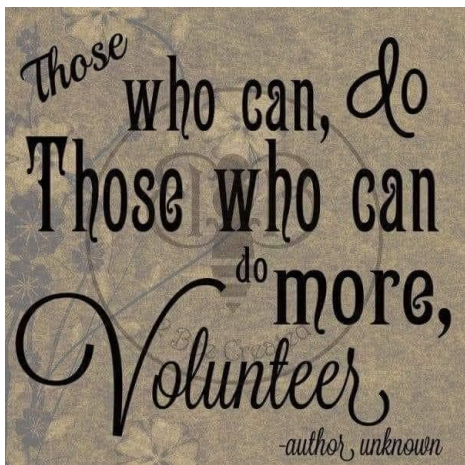


Florence Diede at the Guest Welcome Table during the reception hosted by Montana to honor Sandi

GFWC International President, Deb Strahanoski and WSR President, Sandi Conrady ready to enter the Saturday evening



Presidents from the Western States Region getting ready for their "Moose Tribute" to Sandi.



## Nominations and Elections

### Marsha Price, Elections Committee Chairman

It is important to start considering all your club members for State positions. Please let the Elections Committee know **ASAP** of anyone you think would be an excellent, officer candidate for GFWC MT from your club or district. The committee will contact these members, determine their eligibility for an office as stated in the Bylaws, and seek their agreement to run for an office. Individuals are encouraged to also present their interest to the Elections Committee.

Candidates for President-elect, First Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer must be endorsed by three clubs in her district or by the Board of Directors of her District. This being said, it will be easiest for the three Districts to endorse any candidates from their district during the District Meeting at the Fall Meeting in Butte from September 29-30, 2023.

Documentation of such endorsement shall include the signature of the President and Secretary of the page(s) of minutes of the meeting endorsing the candidate, or when polling by mail, email, or phone a statement regarding the outcome of such poll. December 15<sup>th</sup> of the odd years is the deadline for the GFWC MT Elections Chairman (GFWC MT Corresponding Secretary) to receive these endorsements.

The names of all eligible candidates will be published in the February *Montana Woman* in the even years. Nominations may be made from the floor during the Biennial Spring Convention after the report of the Elections Committee. Any nominee from the floor must meet the eligibility criteria stated in the Bylaws for the office being sought and have signatures from 25 delegates to the Convention.

Feel free to contact Marsha Price, Chairman, or district representatives Linda Suckow, Nancy Hanford, and Bonnie Conner with any questions.

## Secure the Call Used Cell Phone Collection

### Beth Campbell, Chairman

Hundreds of thousands of people in this country are electronically isolated from readily available emergency services. They have no convenient way to dial 911. Ironically, the success of cell phone manufacturers has resulted in placing public pay phones on the endangered species list. If you don't have a phone of your own, you're cut off from most of the world most of the time. This includes senior citizens, domestic abuse victims, and children in crisis to name a few.

A second problem is electronic waste—broken or unwanted electronic assemblies of one kind or another—is threatening to choke our landfills with items that will not have properly biodegraded for thousands of years and contain significant quantities of toxic materials. Unwanted cell phones promise to become a large percentage of this waste.

What **Secure the Call** does is collect unwanted cell phones, inspect them at their home offices in Maryland, and select the used phones that work well enough to be reused. They process and package them with chargers so that they can be immediately reused to acquire 911 services and ship them to agencies and institutions across the nation that redistribute the phones to individuals who are not only in need but at a high risk for needing emergency services. Any unusable phone is sent to a recycling center who trades the unusable phone for one that does.

Secure the Call never charges a fee for this or makes demands of the groups with whom they work. Their existence is a function of the continuing generosity and cooperation of the greater community. *And did we mention donating a phone is tax deductible?* It's a win-win, get rid of those old phones, give them a new purpose, and benefit those in need at the same time.

This is a call to all GFWC members to pull out your old phones, ask family, friends, and community members to do the same. Bring them to the State Fall Meeting September 29-30, 2023, in Butte and the State Biennial Convention April 19-20, 2024, in Helena. There will be a collection bin at both events that we can hopefully fill! Tax deductible forms will be available.

Do you know of an organization in Montana who may want to distribute the phones? Ask them. Let's get a list together for Secure the Call of agencies and organizations in our state willing to get these phones out to those in need.

To learn more about the program and see some frightening statistics, go to [securethecall.org/why-we-do-it](https://securethecall.org/why-we-do-it).



## ***Western District Summer Gathering*** **Karen Gustavsen, District President**



Woman's Club of Missoula members proudly showed off their room: L-R Rea Proctor, President Jennifer Lippy, Camille Coughlin, and Charlotte Iverson.

The Woman's Club of Missoula welcomed members of the Western District to their Club Room housed on the campus of the University of Montana. They shared with 13 other members of the district and special guest, GFWC MT President Lynn Foreman, the history of how the club had raised the funds needed to construct the building in the mid-1930s in a remote area of the campus where it served as the first art museum in the Northwest. The building was given to the university with the stipulation that as long as the club existed, they had sole use of the space. Three times over the years they have had to defend this right with lawyers agreeing it is iron clad.

Attendees brought their own lunch with Missoula providing coffee, lemonade, or water and Bitterroot Woman's Club supplied desserts.

Clubs shared ideas about nametags, yearbooks, compiling club histories, and storing important historical documents in addition to sharing lots of laughs. We look forward to once again seeing each other in Butte for the statewide Fall Meeting.

## ***GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club Diaper Collection*** **Sarah Fryer, President**



Adriann Monson, Co-Chairman of the Diaper Giveaway, pauses for a moment during the room set-up.

The GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club members hosted a diaper, pull-ups, and baby wipes giveaway on June 6th in Hamilton.

After the event all of the items that were left were delivered to local food pantries throughout the Bitterroot Valley. Delivering to the Haven House, Calvary Chapel Food Bank, Darby Bread Box, and the House of Praise Food Pantry made it possible for community members to pick up the much needed supplies in a town near to their home.

The club gave away 6000+ diapers and pull-ups along with 175 packages of wipes!

So many members of the community will benefit from this donation which was made in part by a grant from The Power of Change Program, Ravalli Electric Co-op, along with Safeway and Albertsons in Hamilton. Co-chairman, Adriann Monson and Charlene Rye kept everyone organized and on task!



Club President Sarah Fryer (left) and Diaper Giveaway Co-Chairman Charlene Rye (right) make a delivery to a Haven House Food Pantry volunteer.



## *GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club Summer University*

### **Barbara Hogg, President**

BJWC maintains an active monthly schedule from September thru May. Members wanting to continue meeting with their friends/members decided to develop the Summer University program, an informal **activity-only** way to maintain friendships and experience interesting activities in our community.

Any member may propose an activity they believe would be of interest to the group. Suggestions along with the details of date, cost, place, etc. are distributed to members via e-mail. Interested members sign up for activities they want to participate in. A reminder is sent a few days before the activity.

All members are encouraged to attend AND bring a guest. We think this is one of the best membership encouraging activities the club does.

Over the past several years **some** of the favorite activities have included: Chair painting, pour painting, ceramic tiles painted with alcohol ink, museum tours, game/picnic day, cake decorating, bus trip to the Ennis Thrift Shop, another bus trip to the Big Timber Christmas Bazaar, walking tours of local parks and Audubon Center, visit to a local bird sanctuary, visits to both indoor and outdoor art exhibits, museum tours and speakers.

This summer's offerings include Bread Baking with Florence, tour of the recycling procedures at the local Albertsons, basket making, Western Heritage tour, jewelry re-purpose, financial fitness, and Tippit Rise outdoors art exhibit.

We enjoy spending time informally as a small group while learning and experiencing activities that we would not do as regular projects.

## *GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club Pie Contest and Auction*

### **Lorrie Hardy, Committee Member**

One of Fort Benton Woman's Club major fundraisers is their Annual Pie Contest and Auction. Club and community members and even visiting out of town guests donate homemade pies to be judged on appearance, taste, and quality. The club gives small cash prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in two different categories and four different age groups. Judges for the contest, volunteer their time with their identities kept secret. The club also has two grand prizes given one for the adults and one for young bakers under the age of 19. The grand prizes are a very coveted honor, with many bakers working hard to earn this prize.

An auction is held later in the day. This has become a fun community event with many family members working to out-bid or bump up the bid on each other. The community has shown great support for the Fort Benton Woman's Club and the income from the sale of the pies has increased considerably through the years. In 2022, the club made over \$14,000 on about 30 pies.

Club members can assist in many ways, by baking pies, helping during the contest, or helping at the auction in the evening. The fundraiser is completed in one day and with the help of the committee and volunteers to assist, it is a very fun event to work together.



Committee Chair, Janell Barber keeps track while Auctioneer Blaine Ophus announces the next offering.



# Ennis July 4th Parade

## Jenny Rohrback, GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club President



GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club participated in the 87th Annual Ennis Fourth of July Parade. A colorful GFWC Banner carried by Nearly New Volunteers led the way.



This was followed by GFWC Montana President Lynn Foreman riding in the Rumble Seat of a BLUE 1935 AUBURN CONVERTIBLE.

Next came a large Flotilla of Fashions, a Vision of Loveliness, in the form of VINTAGE ENSEMBLES from The Nearly New Shoppe's VINTAGE ATTIC.



B.J. Deaver, Snaque Rollo, Toni Scully and Kiley Dickerson, Co-Chairman of MVWC Parade Committee



Adrienne Goldsworthy, left, Co-Chairman of MVWC Parade Committee and other Vintage Lovelies! Fourth from the left is 93 year old Nearly New volunteer, Beverly Claassen.

THE MVWC wants to thank our Parade Committee, Adrienne Goldsworthy and Kiley Dickerson for their work and arrangements. And to the many Nearly New volunteers who modeled the Fashions. You all looked FABULOUS!





## Montana Member Celebrating 50 Years of Club Membership

**Bonnie Connor** of the GFWC Big Timber Woman's Club celebrated 50 years of membership during the height of Covid. We will have her 50 year pin and recognition letter from GFWC International President Deb Strahanowski for presentation at the Fall Meeting in Butte.

## Project Box

Does your club have a "Project Box" that goes to every club event?

At a recent yard sale, we brainstormed the following items that would be good to place in a box with a tight lid that would be present at all events:

Large black marker	Large red marker
Few Sharpies	Pens/pencils
Packing tape	Scotch tape
Notepaper	Stapler/staples
Clothes pins (to hold down the tablecloth!)	
Club business cards/informational fliers	

Anything else you have, or would want, in your Project Box?

## Membership Corner "Sparkle and Shine" Karen Gustavsen, Chairman

Highlights from **Mapping Out a Club Strategic Plan**

CREATED BY: JOLIE FRANKFURTH,  
2022-2024 GFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

*(Full copies of the materials available may be located on the GFWC.org website in My Digital Library/Resources/S/2022-2024 Strategic Planning Tool Kit)*

Begin with three brainstorming questions. Not all ideas will meet general consensus, so write the least popular on a sheet of paper for future consideration or combination.

### QUESTION #1

*Where are we now?* ... This would include your Mission Statement—your fundamental reason for existence and your Club's scope of activities

Core Values – the basic elements of how you go about your work  
Analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats. (SWOT)

### QUESTION #2

*Where are we going?* ... This would include your club

Goals for the future

Your Vision Statement - your inspirational description of what you hope to achieve.

What Factors are necessary for Success?

### QUESTION #3

*How do we get there?*

You'll need:

Specific/measurable goals

Objectives

Detailed execution plan with how you intend to achieve your goals

Evaluation process – What's working, what's not, what may need to be changed, what's completed.

A Club's Strategic Plan is typically organized into five broad goals:

Ensure Long-term Financial Stability & Security

Offer Programs to Impact Communities

Create Organizational Leadership Strength

Strengthen and Increase Membership

Amplify Public Awareness and Communications

*Next Issue—What to do next once the ground work is set.*

## Up-Coming Dates to Remember

Sept. 1 Fall Membership Recruitment Report  
Report to GF and Karen Gustavsen

Sept. 30 GFWC National Day of Service  
Report your projects to Montana by Feb. 5

Sept. 29-30 Montana Fall Meeting, Butte, MT  
Copper King Hotel

Dec. 1 Winter Membership Recruitment Report  
Report to GF and Karen Gustavsen



## National Day of Service September 30, 2023



**The Butte Emergency Food Bank** operates five days a week with the intention that no individual or family in the community experiences the fear and pain of hunger. Each year they distribute about 1,300,000 pounds of food—canned goods; boxed and bagged food; diapers; milk; bread and bakery items; meat and more—to Butte area residents, about 2,700 people each month.

As part of the **GFWC National Day of Service –Food Insecurity** on September 30th, clubs and attendees to the Fall Meeting are asked to bring non-perishable items. A presentation of the collected items will be made to the Butte Emergency Food Bank as a statewide participation in this national event.

### GFWC Montana

During the recent 100 years celebration of a Montana woman's club, there was the opportunity to view a copy of the very first issue of *The Montana Woman* published in October 1924. Wonderful, thoughtful articles! You can read a copy at this link, <https://mtmemory.recollectcms.com/nodes/view/107289>.

Just recently there was a lightbulb moment – that means October 2024 will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for *The Montana Woman*! So how could this be volume 60? What went wrong? Volumes of a periodical represents each year of publication with the Issue being the sequence within that year. This first publication was “Vol. I, No. 1” and they did well through the February – March 1973 issue as XLIX No 3. This was the 49<sup>th</sup> volume, or 1924 plus 49 equals 1973. Then things get off track!

Blame it on Roman Numerals. Capital I is one, V is 5, X is 10, L is 50 and C is 100. The fun comes in when IV is 4 (one less than 5), IX is 9 (one less than 10), XL is 40 (10 less than 50). Thus, XLIX is 10 less than 50 plus one less than 10, or 49.

The April - May 1973 issue went off the tracks by saying it was volume XLX No 4 when it was really still XLIX until the fall publication at which time it would have become L. In 1975 they did the volumes as if the first issue was in 1904 when GFWC Montana was federated; September – October 1975 was LXXI for volume 71 plus 1904 to equal 1975. At some point in the early 1980s the volumes were numbered by administration then back to years, but from the wrong starting point!

In 1996 we gave up on the Roman Numerals and went to the Arabic Numerals we commonly use starting with Volume 42. This has continued with us of administration or years. Admittedly, this editor just picked up the numbers when she took over and went forward as yearly volumes, ending up with the erroneous volume 59 for the 2022-2023 issues. At the top of page one for this issue you will see that it now says Volume 99, Issue 1 – or should it be XCIX with the fall of 2024 becoming C?





**GFWC Montana Fall Meeting**  
**September 29 - September 29, 2023**  
**Copper King Hotel <> Butte, MT**



*Please send one registration form for each person attending.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ **First Timer: Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

GFWC Montana Position(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
State, District and/or Club

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_ Western \_\_\_ Central \_\_\_ Eastern

Members of the GFWC of Montana Board of Directors are voting delegates.

**ALL MEMBERS are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

**Registration Fee: \$40.00**

**Please note any dietary considerations:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday, September 29, Dinner**

**Circle your choice:**

Lemon Herb Chicken  
 Salmon Wellington

Both dinners include Caesar Salad, Mashed Potatoes,  
 Seasonal Vegetables, Apple Cobbler

\$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

\$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, September 30, Lunch Buffet**

Assorted Wraps, Vegetable Soup, Chips, Dessert Bars

\$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, September 30, Dinner Buffet**

Baron of Beef, Chicken Marsala, Alfredo Pasta, Roasted Potatoes, Peas, House Salad

\$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_

All prices include gratuities

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline: Postmarked by September 12, 2023**

**NO REFUNDS will be given after September 18, 2023**

**Make checks payable to GFWC Montana**

Mail Registration form and check to:

Marsha Price, 2623 Terrace Drive, Billings, MT 59102 406-698-6946 / [askmap@gmail.com](mailto:askmap@gmail.com)

